

## A new subspecies of *Theretra nessus* (Lepidoptera, Sphingidae, Macroglossinae) from Fiji

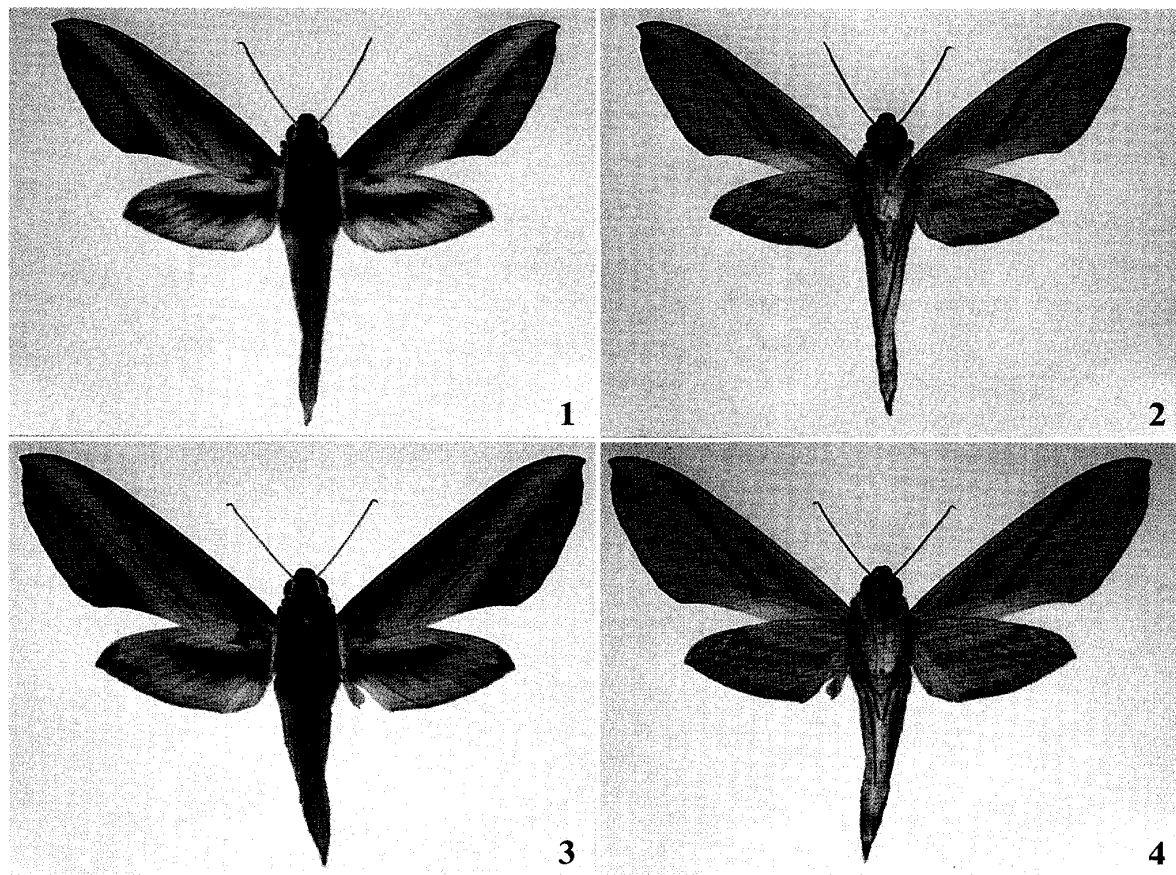
Hiroki FUKUDA

9-21, Yotsukaido 2-chome, Yotsukaido-shi, Chiba, 284-0005 Japan

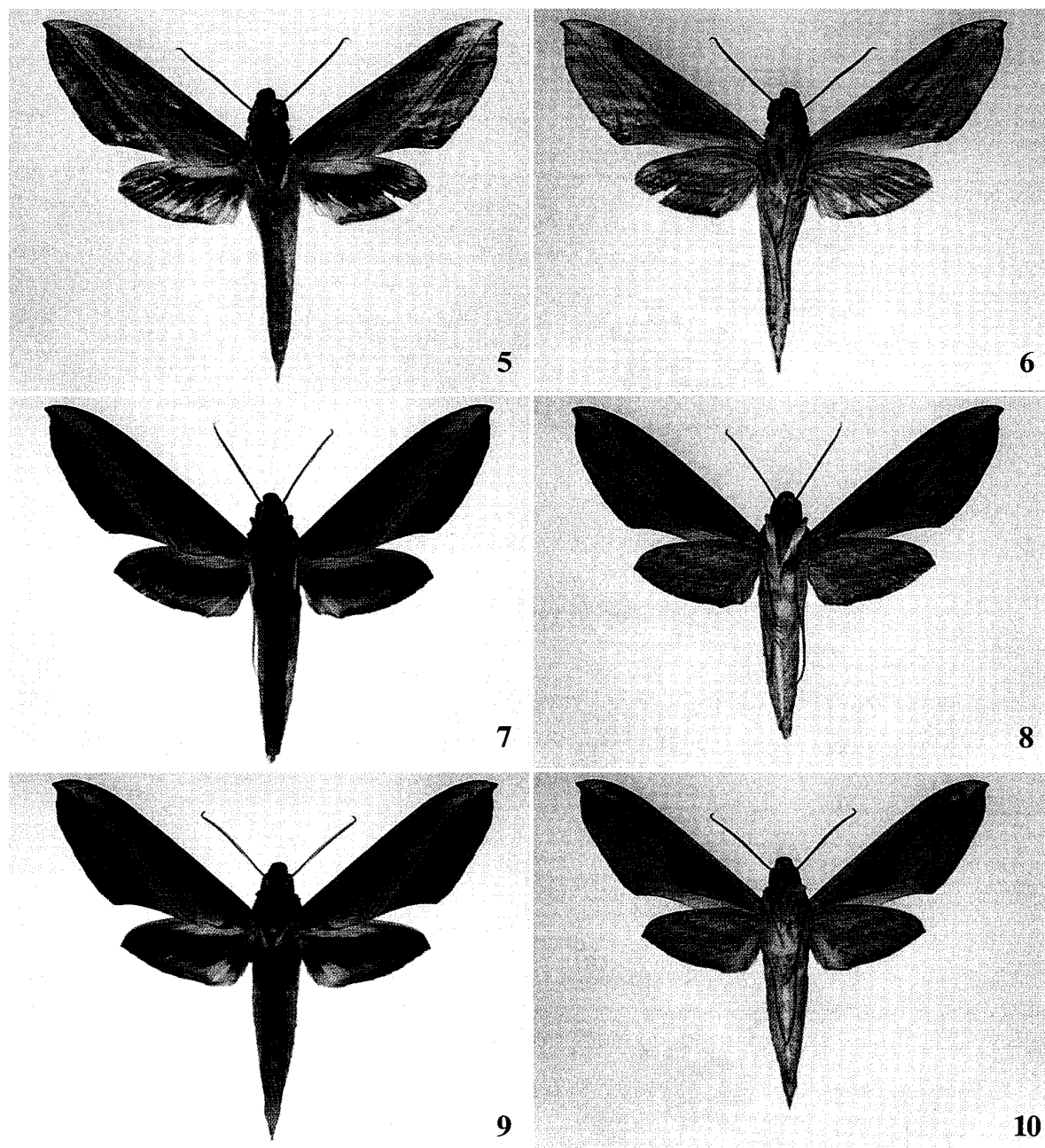
**Abstract** A new subspecies of *Theretra nessus* (Drury, 1773), *T. n. albata* ssp. n., is described from Fiji.

**Key words** *Theretra*, *Theretra nessus*, *Theretra nessus albata*, Fiji, taxonomy.

*Theretra nessus* (Drury, 1773) is widely distributed from India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, W. & S. China, Japan, Taiwan, Sundaland to Australasia, New Caledonia, Hawaii (introduced) (Holloway, 1987; Inoue *et al.*, 1997). The author obtained two specimens of this species collected in Fiji. Through close comparison with *Theretra nessus* from the known localities, it turns out that these specimens represent a new subspecies.



Figs 1–4. *Theretra nessus albata* subsp. n. 1. Holotype ♂, Fiji. 2. *Ditto*, underside. 3. Paratype ♀, Fiji. 4. *Ditto*, underside.



Figs 5-10. *Theretra nessus nessus* (Drury). 5. ♂, Rannonga Is. 6. *Ditto*, underside. 7. ♂, Timika. 8. *Ditto*, underside. 9. ♂, Sabah. 10. *Ditto*, underside.

***Theretra nessus nessus* (Drury) (Figs 5-10)**

*Sphinx nessus* Drury, 1773, *Illust. exot. Insects*. 2: Index [91], pl. 76: 1.

Forewing usually with the costal area broadly darkened, the central area purplish brown or whitish brown, and the terminal area dark brown or yellow ocher. Hindwing whitish brown, with broad black marking in the central area, and the termen broadly darker. Underside of both wings reddish brown, and the forewing suffused with dark brown from the base to the central area.

Material examined. 32 specimens. Assam, N. India, Wang Chin Pae, Thailand, Mindanao

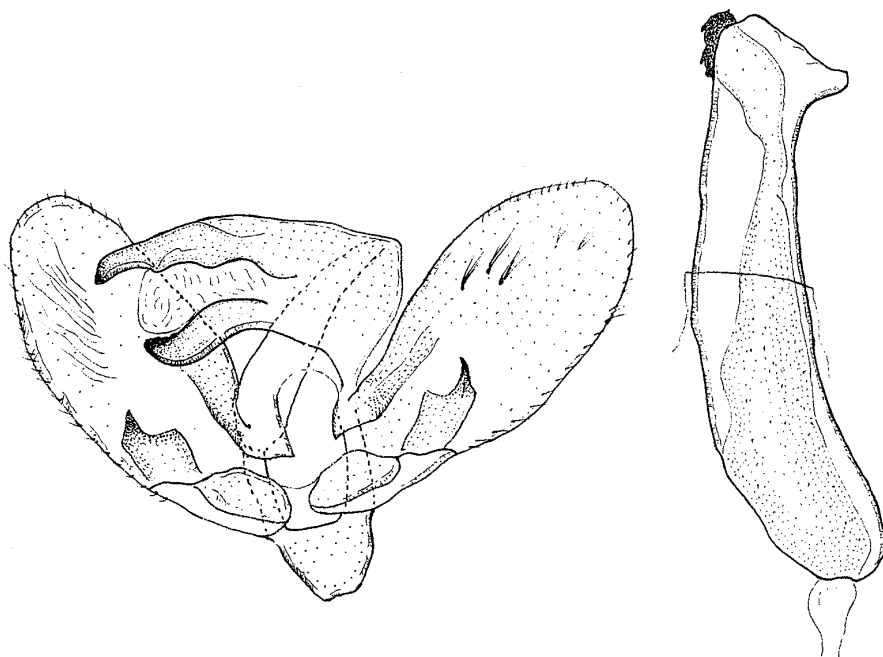


Fig. 11. Male genitalia of *Theretra nessus albata* ssp. n., holotype.

Is., Philippines, Iriomote Is., Japan, Sabah, Borneo, Pass Valley, Wamena & Timika, W. Irian, Bulolo,, Rabaul, New Britain Is., Papua New Guinea, Rannonga Is., Solomon Isls.

***Theretra nessus albata* ssp. n.** (Figs 1-4, 11)

♂. Length of forewing 51 mm, expanse 100 mm. ♀. Length of forewing 57 mm, expanse 105 mm.

Distinguished from the nominotypical subspecies by the forewing being broadly whitish brown, the hindwing with the median black marking reduced and the whitish brown ground color wider and more conspicuous, the underside of both wings widely yellowish brown, and the forewing underside lacking black suffusion from the base to the central area.

Forewing with apex falcate, costal area broadly darker, central area whitish brown, post-medial series of lines from apex to dorsum, terminal area yellow ocher. Hindwing whitish brown, central area narrow black, termen yellow ocher. Underside widely yellowish brown.

Holotype. ♂, Fiji, Viti Levu Is., Nuku, 7. ii. 1991 (Y. Ikeda leg.), in coll. H. Fukuda. Paratype. 1 ♀, same data as holotype, in coll. H. Fukuda.

Distribution. Fiji.

**Acknowledgements**

In writing this paper, the author expresses his thanks to Mr H. Yoshimoto, Tokyo High School, for his kind advice, Messrs N. Katsura, Tokyo, Y. Nishiyama, Tokyo, H. Matsuda, Tokyo, for their kind offer of the invaluable specimens.

## References

- Holloway, J. D., 1987. Superfamily Bombycoidea: families Lasiocampidae, Eupterotidae, Bombycidae, Brahmaeidae, Saturniidae, Sphingidae. *The Moths of Borneo* 3: 1-199, pls 1-20, 163 figs.
- Inoue, H., Kennett, R. D. & I. J. Kitching, 1997. Sphingidae. In Pinratana, A. (Ed.), *Moths of Thailand* 2: 1-149, pls 1-44.

## 摘 要

フィジー産のキイロスズメの1新亜種 (福田 宏樹)

キイロスズメ *Theretra nessus* (Drury, 1773) は、インドからニューカレドニアにかけて広域分布するが、亜種は知られていない。筆者は今まで記録の無かったフィジー産の本種を入手し、インド北部、タイ、日本、フィリピン、ボルネオ、ニューギニア、ビスマーク諸島、ソロモン諸島の個体と比較した。その結果、前翅が広く白味がかかった褐色になる、後翅の中央にある黒色紋の発達が悪いため、白味がかかった褐色の地色は広く明瞭になる、裏面は前後翅とも黄色味がかかった褐色に覆われ、前翅の基部から中央部にかけてある黒褐色の紋を欠く、などの点から新亜種と認め、*Theretra nessus albata* ssp. n. として記載した。亜種名 *albata* はラテン語で白衣の意。

(Accepted October 16, 2002)